

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4652

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR WB GW UK FR UR

SUBJECT: HESS: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS

REFS: (A) STATE 272412; (B) LONDON 17596;

(C) BONN 18670; (D) BONN 18507

1. DRAWING ON INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL (A), AT NOVEMBER 24 TRIPARTITE BONN GROUP MEETING US REP SAID USG WAS PREPARED TO MAKE A DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIETS IN WASHINGTON IF THE FCO HAD A CONTINUING DESIRE FOR SUCH AN APPROACH. HE NOTED, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT THERE WERE INDICATIONS (REFTEL B) THAT ENTHUSIASM IN LONDON WAS WANING FOR US AND FRENCH APPROACHES TO THE SOVIETS ASSOCIATING THEMSELVES WITH HATTERSLEY'S DEMARCHE TO LUNKOV.

2. UK REP (HITCH) SAID THE BRITISH MAINTAINED THEIR DESIRE FOR SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIETS
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AND WOULD WELCOME US AND FRENCH DEMARCHES.

3. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) EXPRESSED VIEW THAT, WITH PASSAGE OF TIME, US AND FRENCH SUPPORTING DEMARCHES MADE LITTLE SENSE. HE THOUGHT THAT AT THIS LATE DATE THEY WOULD ONLY DEMONSTRATE ALLIED INDECISIVENESS TO THE SOVIETS. HITCH DISAGREED, SAYING THAT STAGGERED APPROACHES TO THE SOVIETS MIGHT GIVE THEM MORE CAUSE TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION.

4. BOISSIEU THEN SAID THAT, AS HIS EARLIER INSTRUCTIONS (REFTEL D) HAD NOT BEEN SUPERSEDED, HE WAS PREPARED TO ASK THE QUAI TO GO AHEAD WITH A DEMARCHE. HE SUGGESTED THAT, GIVEN THE DELAY, THE FRENCH (AND US) DEMARCHES SHOULD NOT BE IDENTICAL TO THAT MADE IN LONDON TO AMBASSADOR LUNKOV. RATHER, HE SUGGESTED THAT FRENCH AND US STATE THAT ALL THREE ALLIES HAD SUPPORTED THE APPROACH MADE BY THE BRITISH TO LUNKOV ON OCTOBER 29 AND THAT THE FRENCH AND US WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE SOVIETS WOULD INFORM THEM OF THEIR RESPONSE.

5. US REP AGREED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT FOLLOW THE SAME GENERAL APPROACH IN THE DEMARCHE TO BE MADE IN WASHINGTON.
HILLENBRAND

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